



CITIZENS FOR TRADITIONAL VALUES

A POSITIVE VOICE FOR YOUR VALUES

Testimony in Opposition of SB 1075

Senate Agriculture Committee

April 26, 2012

Amy Hawkins, Executive Director

Citizens for Traditional Values

On behalf of Citizens for Traditional Values and all our members, I thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition to SB 1075. While the intent of the legislation is to help the struggling horse racing industry, the solution this legislation offers is a bad one. Not only does this legislation expand gaming at horse tracks, it basically will turn them into 5 new casinos around the state.

Gaming has already invaded our communities - 25 casinos around the state, Keno games in family restaurants, round the clock charitable gaming events in our neighborhoods. In 2004 Michigan voters approved a Constitutional amendment to require a vote of the people before any gaming expansion takes place but this legislation is also trying to circumvent this requirement.

Enough is enough and we need to draw the line before it is too late and the societal costs crush our families and our state.

CTV does not support the expansion of gambling, of any kind, in Michigan. We have already become the Las Vegas of the north and acknowledge the well-documented harmful effects of gambling on individuals and communities. We disagree with those who think Michigan, or community or organization, can gamble its way to prosperity.

CTV applauds the hard work you have done to improve the State of Michigan but urge you to oppose this legislation before you today.

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